City of Somerville Licensing Commission

Remote Meeting Participation

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Special Meeting
Wednesday
June 10, 2020
1:00pm
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Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the Licensing Commission will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/595600358664781071.

If you wish to submit comments on any item on this agenda, you may send written comments by US mail to the Secretary of the Licensing Commission, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or by email to ljbatzek@somervillema.gov. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the meeting, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Commission.

The Licensing Commission is meeting solely for the purpose of considering outdoor seating for current license holders that is compliant with Covid-19 protocols.

Note: While this Licensing Commission's meeting is open to the public, the Commission does not expect to accept testimony from the public or from current license holders.

COMMUNICATION

ABCC ADVISORY REGARDING LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITIES' APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR SEATING

Pursuant to Governor Baker's June 6, 2020 Order declaring that the Commonwealth had entered Phase II of its reopening plan. According to the Governor and the Executive Office of Housing

and Economic Development, licensees for on-premises consumption of alcohol may commence outdoor seated service, provided food is prepared on-sit under a retail food permit issued by a municipal authority pursuant to 105 CMR 590.000.

Indoor service remains prohibited until further order from the Governor.

Please note that establishments that do not offer seated table service of food that is prepared onsite under a retail food permit are not allowed to open in Phase II.

Please refer to your Local Board for guidance on outdoor seating.

The ABCC continues to retain supervision and oversight of all alcohol licensees, including those that expand their licensed premises pursuant to this Order. As always, all licensees must ensure that they comply with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that sales of alcoholic beverages take place only as authorized by federal, state, an local law.

OUTDOOR SEATING FOR CURRENT LICENSE HOLDERS

The Licensing Commission will consider the approval for all current outdoor seating license holders to open with modified seating that is consistent with Covid-19 protocols as specified by the City Engineer and the Public Space and Urban Forestry Division of the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development. This approval is only for the placement of outdoor seating on public and private property. It does not approve any other aspect of the current license. It takes effect immediately and requires no additional payment from any current license holder. It allows current license holders to reduce their hours of operation without notification to the Licensing Commission. It includes the warning that any violation of the Covid-19 protocols or of any other term and condition of the license may result in the suspension or revocation of the license holder's license.